



U.S. National Ice Center



Weekly Ice Forecast for Chesapeake and Delaware Bays

Week of: 01/18/2022
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Ice Conditions:

Open water north of Pooles Island and in far northern Delaware Bay. The lower Chesapeake Bay remains ice free.

Ice Forecast:

Current water temperatures are in the mid to upper 30s across the upper Chesapeake and Delaware Bays. The cold air outbreak on the previous weekend led to ice formation in the northern Chesapeake Bay Saturday night (1/15), but temperatures have since warmed to the low 40s melting much, if not all, of this ice. Colder temperatures will return beginning Thursday evening with lows in the mid-teens across the northern portion of the region which should lead to ice formation especially north of Pooles Island in the Chesapeake Bay as the water here is already primed for ice formation.

These cold temperatures are forecast to remain in place at least through the weekend. High temperatures are not forecast to reach above freezing on either Friday or Saturday across the northern portion of the region, so any ice which forms will likely persist through the remainder of the forecast period.

Delaware Bay:

Open water, with ice formation near the shore beginning as early as Thursday night/Friday morning.

Upper Chesapeake Bay:

Open water, with ice formation beginning Thursday night in shallow, sheltered waters and potentially growing in extent through the weekend. Highest concentration expected north of Pooles Island Friday through Saturday night/Sunday morning.

Lower Chesapeake Bay:

Ice free, with possibility of open water and/or diurnal new ice in shallow, sheltered waters by the weekend.